TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 20th April, 1928.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

The Council re-assembled in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, at Eleven Thirty of the Clock, with the Deputy President in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12*—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Infantile Mortality.

249. MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: (*a*) With reference to the statement made by Government in the Administration Report for 1097 *in re.* the percentage of infantile mortality in the State, will they be pleased to state what steps have been taken hitherto ?

(*b*) Has the Sanitary Commissioner taken any steps to instruct the masses in the ordinary rules of health, sanitation and health of children ?

(*c*) How many days has he been on circuit during this year, what places has he visited, and has he seen personally any of the ryots and discussed with them questions relating to sanitation and hygiene?

MR. N. NILAKANDA PILLAI: (*a*) Midwives in the Medical Department are required to attend free on poor women in labour. A nursing class has been opened, and when qualified women from that class are appointed as nurses in important hospitals, a more effective system of nursing infants, prospective mothers and lying-in-women among poorer and less educated classes could be introduced. The pupil midwives trained in the Victoria Jubilee School, Quilon, are also being given special training in maternity and child welfare. Particular attention is being devoted to the protection of infants by vaccination against contagious diseases.

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[Mr. K. Paramesvaran Pillai.]

(*b*) Sanitary Officers are required to deliver lectures to the masses on health and sanitation during their tours of inspection and discuss with the people matters connected with public health.

(*c*) Dr. K. Madhavan Pillai was in charge of the department for the first three months of 1098, and he visited Varkala, Quilon and Kottarakara, spending seven days in camp. Mr. Krishnamurti Aiyar was in combined charge of the Sanitary and the Census Departments from the 1st Vrischikam to the 16th Makaram, 1098, when he went on leave. During this period he was not required to go on circuit owing to Census work, and the inspection work was done by Mr. J. J. Chandy, who was out on circuit for 37 days. He visited the undermentioned places.

1. Kottarakara	13. Perumpavur
2. Adur	14. Kaladi
3. Ezhankulam	15. Muvattupuzha
4. Asramam	16. Todupuzha
5. Quilon	17. Kuttattukulam
6. Kayankulam	18. Bharananganam
7. Karumadi	19. Kottayam
8. Ambalapuzha	20. Alleppey
9. Vaikam	21. Arukutty
10. Alwaye	22. Shertallai
11. Edapalli	23. Ettumanur
12. Parur	24. Nagercoil

In re. the latter part of the question, the answer is in the affirmative.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether any lectures were actually delivered, as required of the Sanitary Officers? The answer to part (*b*) of the question is that Sanitary Officers are required to deliver lectures. My question is whether they actually delivered any lectures.

MR. N. NILAKANDA PILLAI: Government will enquire.

Department of Ayurveda.

250. MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(1) when the Ayurvedic Dispensary and Pharmacy were started;

(2) how many times the accounts of the Ayurvedic Dispensary and Pharmacy have been audited since they were established;

(3) when the last audit was carried out; and

(*b*) whether the auditor's report will be laid on the table?

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